GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009
AIR ACCIDENT AT MUMBAI AIRPORT
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Air India flight with 213 passengers on board caught fire at the Mumbai Airport in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the losses,incurred as a result thereof,if any;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted on the tragic incident; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Air India B747-400 aircraft operating Flight number AI-829 on the Bombay -Riyadh sector on 4.9.2009 was involved a fire incident at Mumbai airport due to leakage from a pylon(Strut) while taxing off at Mumbai airport taxiway.

The estimated in-house repair charges, due to damage to the aircraft, are approximately USD$19 Million.

(c)and (d): Yes, Sir. An inquiry is being conducted by DGCA. Pending completion of the enquiry by DGCA, Air India had issued a One-Time Callout on all its Boeing 747-400 aircraft to inspect the fuel feed line and associated couplings.

The above inspections/checks have been carried out on all Air India Boeing 747-400 aircrafts and were found in satisfactory status. No fuel leak in the strut fuel feed lines/couplings were found subsequently on pressurization.